

DD/A Registry

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File

ODP 2543-76

17 DEC 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM : Clifford D. May, Jr.
Director of Data Processing

SUBJECT : Assistance to the National Aeronautics and
Space Administration

REFERENCES : a. HR ☐ Annex E, Procedures to Obtain
Approval for CIA Assistance to Other
Government Agencies
b. OGC 76-1949 dtd 27 Jul 76, subject:
Procedures for Rendering Advice Pursuant
to HR ☐ Annex E.
c. OGC 76-6212 dtd 8 Nov 76, subject:
Assistance to Other Government Components.
d. ODP 1725-76 dtd 7 Sept. 76, same subject
as Reference c.

STATINTL

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1. The Office of Data Processing requests approval to provide the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), and subsequently other government components, with the assistance outlined below.

a. Description of Activity: Transfer to NASA Goddard Space Flight Center of a computer magnetic tape containing unclassified ASP system software program modifications written at CIA. Included with this tape of program modifications is a brief description of each modification and the ASP system software modules affected. ASP is an unclassified IBM computer system used by several large IBM computer installations to operate multiple computer mainframes as a single "batch" computer system. These CIA-written modifications will be distributed to other ASP users, government and non-government, through SHARE, an IBM computer users group (see Reference d.). The current SHARE Committee Chairman for this clearing house activity works at NASA/Goddard. The modifications will be attributed to CIA, but their use by SHARE members is at the member's own risk. CIA bears no responsibility other than providing informal consultation on the use of these modifications.

b. Location of Assistance: Magnetic tape will originate at CIA Headquarters building.

c. Organization Involved: Office of Data Processing.

d. Basis for Activity:

1). Over the past few years, individuals in the Systems Programming Division of ODP have developed unclassified software routines and systems which we feel are of general interest to other users of IBM 360/370 computers. These software packages have been requested by other computer installations who have learned of them through our participation in computer user groups such as SHARE and GUIDE. Since this software was developed with Government resources, we have been reluctant to give out Agency-developed software to individual companies. As we understand the legalities, we are compelled to utilize a publicly-accessible library, or some such mechanism, for placing the software in the public domain.

2) In the past, IBM has maintained a facility for the sharing of software--the SHARE Library. In 1968 we contributed the CIA-written Steno to English Translation software to that Library as a way of declaring that software to be in the public domain. Currently, the common mechanism for distributing software which is related to the ASP Operating System is through the ASP Committee of SHARE. The Agency has frequently drawn from this source for modifications and facilities for our own systems.

e. Financial Costs: The cost of the computer tape and the personnel and computer time spent in providing this tape to NASA/Goddard is estimated to be less than \$100.

f. Manpower: One to three ODP employees are expected to spend no more than three manhours providing this tape to NASA/Goddard.


STATINTL

g. Agency Employee to Consult for Additional Information: Ms.

2. ODP strongly believes that the Agency has an obligation to the computing community to share the fruits of our development efforts and that the Agency can only benefit from

the positive publicity which would result from these contributions. We further believe that this activity is in the best interest of the Federal Government and the American taxpayer. We, therefore, recommend that the procedure described in Reference b. be used to expedite approval. No classified information will be discussed while rendering this assistance.

STATINTL


Clifford D. May, Jr.

Attachment:
Reference c.
Reference d.

APPROVED:

for

Deputy Director for Administration

3 JAN 1977

Date


John N. Waller

Inspector General

22 Dec. 76

Date

STATINTL

for



General Counsel

30 Dec. 76

Date

Distribution:

Orig + 2 - adse (Orig to be returned to ODP)

- 1 - OIG
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STATINTL